10/1/78

Dear Harold,

Well, I finally decided to sit down & catch up on my letter writing - I've owed a couple friends letters for so long they probably think Ive moved to Greenland or something.

With the rush to get everything ready for Mary's wedding over, things are finally getting somewhat back to normal around here. The wedding was absolutely beautiful & the reception was a blast. Everyone kept asking me what I was going to do now that my best friend was married; actually nothing has changed too much - of course our 3:00 AM drives to talk & have coffee are over, or at least kept to a minimum, but Gary & I get along great, so I haven't lost a friend, I've gained a "husband-in-law!"

Right now I'm spending my time looking for a new job. The company I was with has been going steadily downhill for the past several months & they finally had to lay off a number of people - I didn't have enough seniority so I was one of the ones canned. In a way, I think it will all work out for the best. Although I enjoyed my work & those I worked with, I didn't care at all for the company because I knew, from the first day I started there, that they engaged in some damn unethical practices. About 1½ yrs ago

KDKA-TV did a feature on the company and revealed some of its "questionable" practices. The adverse publicity from that show cut business by about 60% for quite awhile. Then, just as they were recovering from that, "60 Minutes" did a segment on a similar marketing firm. The "60 Minutes" show drove that company out of business & cut ours way down. As if that wasn't enough, a couple "dissatisfied" customers in Detroit filed [redacted] suit & we were charged with 38 counts of fraud & racketeering. Business was so bad that they imposed a freeze on raises. My raise was to have gone into effect May 1st, [redacted] I was told that as soon as business picked up I would get my raise retroactive to May. Well, here it is October & they still owe me $400 in back pay. Truthfully I don't expect to ever see my money - I think they'll be out of business before too long & I can't say they don't deserve it! I had planned to start looking for another job anyway because it was becoming clear that I really had no future there, so now at least I have the time to look for a good job. I'm also glad to have some extra time right now to spend on grad school. So far I'm really enjoying it, but it's a lot of work. It's been almost 3 yrs since I had to write papers & worry about grades &

I guess I was somewhat out of practice. The extra time I have is coming in handy in helping me get my mind to concentrate again. Plus, things are getting cranked-up for the November election & we're working on a newsletter which we hope to turn into a monthly or bimonthly publication. So, even though I'm not working, I haven't really had time to get upset about it or to become bored. I'm sure things will work out anyway.

Since I've been home I've caught a good bit of the Committee Hearings. I've never heard such a supposedly well educated group of people ask such stupid and/or irrelevant questions. They missed so many opportunities to actually get somewhere by simply failing to ask the right questions. I think I could have found more out if I had been doing all the questioning myself! With the Committee already writing their report before hearing all the evidence so that they can meet their deadline, I kind of feel like I'm watching Warren Commission re-runs. It's awful frustrating to see such an opportunity go down the drain. With this Committee's Report "officially" closing the cases, where do we go from here?

I still hope to get down to see you -

I still have all those index cards. If I can't get down at least long enough to deliver them, I'll drop them in the mail.

Take care & give my best to Lil. Mary also said to say hi.

Best,
Karen